



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE DEPORTS 232 ALIENS FROM PENNSYLVANIA

181 are criminals, including rapists, kidnappers, drug dealers

PHILADELPHIA—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced today the deportation of 232 aliens from its Office of Detention and Removals Field Office here, including 181 with criminal convictions ranging from rape, kidnapping, drug smuggling, assault, burglary and fraud.

Most of the aliens were residing the Philadelphia area when arrested, but some were from Pittsburgh, Maryland, Delaware, New York City, and West Virginia.

Each of the aliens deported was a citizen of either Peru, Ecuador, Australia, Jamaica, Philippines, El Salvador, Egypt, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Venezuela, Kenya, Guatemala, Korea, Lebanon, Brazil, Colombia, Belize, Hong Kong, or China.

"Removing criminal aliens from the United States is a significant contribution to public safety," said Field Office Director Thomas Decker. "These people not only preyed on society in general, but in many cases exploited the law abiding immigrants who they lived among."

The Philadelphia Detention and Removal Field Office detains and deports illegal aliens for a number of ICE offices in the region.

"We remain committed to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system," said Decker. "The 9/11 Commission clearly pointed out that the immigration system was exploited with tragic results. The United States will not be victimized again through the immigration system's gaps, whether it occurs through terrorism or criminal activity."

One of the criminals removed from Philadelphia was Rosa Lucero Mora-Lopez, a citizen of Colombia who served 108 months for kidnapping and conspiracy to distribute cocaine. She kidnapped a young girl whose father tried to steal cocaine during a drug deal.

“Criminal aliens like Mora-Lopez are threats to public safety and are one of ICE's highest priorities,” said Decker. "Any alien who illegally enters the United States or who commits a crime here should fully expect ICE to arrest them with an eye toward deporting them. We simply will not turn a blind eye to enforcing the nation's immigration laws."

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.